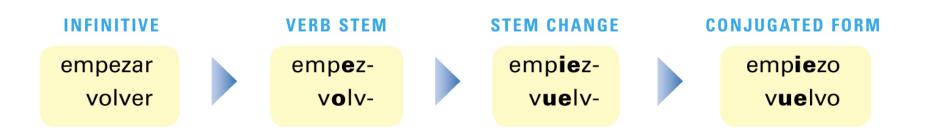
NTE TODO Stem-changing verbs deviate from the normal pattern of regular verbs. In stem-changing verbs, the stressed vowel of the stem changes when the verb is conjugated.

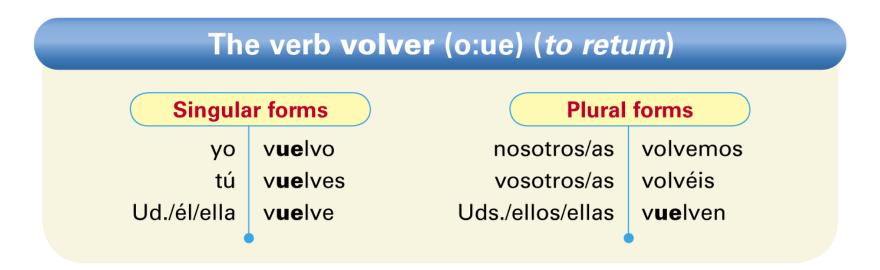


4.2 Stem-changing verbs: e→ie, o→ue ^{(****}

In many verbs, such as **empezar** (to begin), the stem vowel changes from e to ie. Note that the nosotros/as and vosotros/as forms don't have a stem change.



In many other verbs, such as volver
(to return), the stem vowel changes from
o to ue. The nosotros/as and vosotros/as
forms have no stem change.



- - To help you identify stem-changing verbs, they will appear as follows throughout the text:

empezar (e:ie), volver (o:ue)

Common stem-changing verbs e:ie o:ue almorzar to have lunch to close cerrar comenzar (a + inf.) to begin to count; to tell contar empezar (a + inf.) dormir to sleep to begin to find entender to understand encontrar to think to show pensar mostrar poder (+ *inf.*) to be able to; can perder to lose; to miss preferir (+ *inf.*) to remember to prefer recordar querer (+ inf.) volver to want; to love to return

Jugar (to play a sport or game), is the only Spanish verb that has a u:ue stem change. Jugar is followed by a + [definite article] when the name of a sport or game is mentioned.





- - Comenzar and empezar require the preposition a when they are followed by an infinitive.

Comienzan a jugar a las siete. *They begin playing at seven.*

Ana empieza a escribir una postal. *Ana starts to write a postcard.*

- 4.2 Stem-changing verbs: e→ie, o→ue
 - Pensar + [infinitive] means to plan or to intend to do something. Pensar en means to think about someone or something.

¿**Piensan** ir al gimnasio? *Are you planning to go to the gym?*

¿En qué piensas? What are you thinking about?



Provide the present tense forms of these verbs. The first item in each column has been done for you.

cerrar (e:ie)

- 1. Ustedes <u>cierran</u>.
- 2. Tú ____.
- 3. Nosotras .
- 4. Mi hermano _____.
- 5. Yo ____.
- 6. Usted ____.
- 7. Los chicos _____.
- 8. Ella ____.

dormir (o:ue)

- 1. Mi abuela no <u>duerme</u>.
- 2. Yo no ____.
- 3. Tú no ____.
- 4. Mis hijos no _____.
- 5. Usted no ____.
- 6. Nosotros no .
- 7. Él no .
- 8. Ustedes no .